

## III. REMARKS

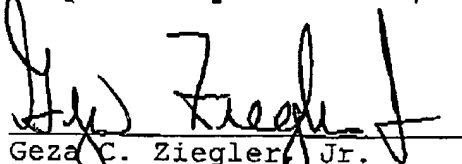
Claim 12 has been amended to better conform to U.S. practice.

All of the claims are allowable for the reasons stated in the reasons stated in the amendment mailed May 23, 2006.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,

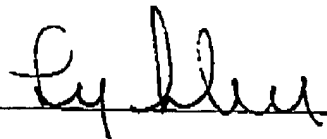
  
Geza C. Ziegler, Jr.  
Reg. No. 44,004

16 June 2004  
Date

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## CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to (571) 273-8300 the date indicated below, addressed to the Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: 16 June 2006Signature: Printed Name: Lisa Shimizu